

FAITH^{AND}VICTORY

Church of God Servant



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He Looketh Down

(Psalm 102:19)

From heights above the Lord looks down;
From heav'n He views the sons of men
Who tread the broad encircling crown
Of earthly realm and worldly din.

He looketh down, O precious thought!
The windows of His holy place
Are drawn aside for visions caught
Of mortals' need of truth and grace.

He looketh down: what does He see?
The restless churn of human strife,
The roar of nations' vanity,
The loss and gain of human life?

Is this what causes Him to lean
His majesty the earth toward?
What else is heard, what else is seen
That cometh up before the Lord?

The souls of men, His handiwork,
Their groans, their sighs, their bitter tears,
Their pall of death, their stain of sin—
Is what the Saviour sees and hears.

Thus in His fullness all sublime
From heav'n the blessed Lord descends,
His holy name to be in time
Proclaimed to earth's remotest ends.

His work completed, sufferings o'er,
The cross and dismal tomb behind,
This risen Saviour ever more
Breaks forth upon the heart and mind.

The gospel to the poor is preached,
The story of the Saviour's love,
And hungry, thirsty souls are reached
And drawn to heaven's courts above.

And I, unworthy, now behold
The face of Him who died for me.
He beckons me to joys untold,
And gives me peace and purity.

—Leslie Busbee

The Mosaic Tabernacle Typified Two Cleansings



It is not unreasonable to believe that the work of complete salvation should be foreshadowed in Old Testament type. Our present purpose is to show that it was typified in the tabernacle.

The tabernacle as the dwelling-place or house of God in that dispensation was typical of the church. Christ is "a minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man" (Heb. 8:2). "The house of God . . . is the church of the living God" (1 Tim. 3:15). Christ built his church, which is his house and of which he is the priest. That ancient house was a figure (Heb. 9:9). Christ is over "his own house; whose house are we". This could refer to nothing else than the church. This agrees with Peter's statement, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house" (1 Pet. 2:5). These texts show clearly that the tabernacle as a house was typical of the church.

But as a means for a system of sacrifice and divine service it also typified the work of salvation, or the way by which the sinner comes to God. This is the more common interpretation and is well supported by many scriptures and expressions in the Bible. This is clearly proved in Heb. 10:19-22. That those sacrifices were typical of Christ's blood, and those ceremonial cleansings of our cleansing from sin, does not admit of question. In saying the tabernacle typified both the church and the work of salvation, we do not allow a multiple sense of Scripture, because as a dwelling-place it represented the one and as a means of service represented the other. And this agrees perfectly with the fact that salvation makes us members of God's church. What a wonderful type! Only the mind of the Infinite could have produced it.

The tabernacle was divided into two rooms called the holy place and the holiest place. At the entrance of each of these two places was a veil. Two altars were placed one before each of these veils. Blood was sprinkled upon each of these altars. What could be more perfectly typified by these two rooms, two veils, two altars, two sprinklings of blood, than the fact that there are two cleansings in the work of one's

salvation? Outside the first veil was the brazen altar and the laver. On this altar the blood of the offerings for sin was sprinkled. This sprinkling is generally allowed to be typical of justification from committed sin (Heb. 9:13, 14). At the laver they washed before entering the house of God. This has been generally and rightly understood as being typical of regeneration (Titus 3:5). But the blood of sin-offerings for the priests was also to be sprinkled on the golden altar inside the first room, before the second veil. Of what was this typical? Christ's blood was shed to cleanse from sin. If that blood typical of Christ's blood when sprinkled on the brazen altar typified justification, what must the sprinkling of it on the golden altar typify but the second cleansing or the entire sanctification of the believer?

This is clearly taught also in Hebrews 10:19-22: "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Here the exhortation is to "brethren," those already justified and regenerated, to go "into the holiest" from the holy place where they then were. They were to enter it "by the blood of Jesus," by which believers have their hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience (justified at brazen altar), and their bodies washed with pure water (regenerated at the laver), which admitted to the first apartment, after which they are urged to go on into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. This clearly teaches that these altars, veils, rooms, and etc., foreshadowed the way of salvation and that there is a double phase to salvation entered by a twofold cleansing by the blood. And this agrees perfectly with the idea that the tabernacle was a type of the church, for is it not a fact that the church contains those merely converted as well as those wholly sanctified? This is in perfect harmony with the sanctifying of the church in Eph. 5:26. Thus we see that the two apartments in God's ancient house have a counterpart in his spiritual house, the church. —R. R. Byrum

Sanctification—An Instantaneous Change of Nature

Opposers of holiness manifest a spirit that is very similar to the spirit manifested by the opposers of any other Bible doctrine. They evade one truth after another, and must be driven from behind their objections one at a time by the inspired Word. They are frequently heard to say (after being driven to acknowledge that the doctrine of holiness is in the Bible) that sanctification is a mere growth or development. This idea I shall refute with the Bible proof that sanctification is a real change in our nature. If I can substantiate this by the scriptures, the idea that sanctification is a growth or development falls to the ground; because neither the word growth nor the word development contains any idea of a change in the nature of anything.

In 1 Thess. 5:23, 24, we read: "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." In this text sanctification is set forth as an experience unto which we are called by God. Paul consoles the Thessalonians with the words, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it," and prays that they might be preserved in this higher life unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He also shows sanctification to be an experience that affects the entire man—spirit, soul, and body. Surely, these thoughts prove sanctification to be an experience to be sought that changes our very nature.

In Heb. 9:13, 14, we read: "For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Here the two sanctifications, that of the Old Testament and that under the New Testament, are contrasted. The New Testament sanctification is shown to be an actual purging of our conscience. A purging implies a cleansing away of something. If therefore sanctification is a cleansing away of something from our conscience, it is evidently a real change in our nature.

In 1 John 1:7, sanctification is described as follows: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." We need not follow this idea any further. If the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin in sanctification, none can fail to see that sanctification is a purifying of our very nature, and I consider this idea established.

It was stated above that neither growth nor development implied any change in our nature, and that sanctification was therefore neither a growth nor a development.

Growth is simply an enlargement of size. This is the idea expressed by that word in any sense we may use it; but it never changes the nature of anything. We may plant a seed in the ground and if it has proper soil, sunlight, and moisture, it will germinate and grow. After the growth is started, it can be accelerated by the proper attention. But all the care it may receive can never grow it into a vegetable of another species, because, as stated above, growth cannot change nature.

Development is an improvement of the quality of a thing by the bringing out of the better qualities that are contained in the nature of that thing. For instance, a species of fruit might by the proper domestication, be greatly improved in quality. This is owing to the fact that the better qualities are contained in the very nature of the fruit, and not that its nature is changed by development. If development could effect a change in nature, then one species of fruit could be developed into another species. But

as development cannot change nature, this can never be brought about.

The words growth and development may be properly applied to the Christian life in some respects, but not to that change known in the Word of God as sanctification. A man in justification receives a purging out of his nature of certain things, and there is imparted to his nature certain qualities that can be developed in his Christian life. Also in sanctification, certain elements are cleansed out of our nature that are foreign to the human nature, and the primeval qualities of our nature are restored to us. These may grow and be developed in our life after we are sanctified. But the sanctification of our nature or our spiritual birth, being real changes wrought in us, cannot be called a growth or a development. Christians are commanded to "grow in grace." (Second Peter 3:18.) They are not commanded to "grow into grace," which expression would signify that we are placed into grace by growth, but they are commanded to grow "in grace," which expression implies merely an enlargement in the graces of God after we have been planted into that grace.

I shall now proceed to show that sanctification is an instantaneous change.

It will first be shown that sanctification is wrought in the heart by the Holy Ghost. Paul tells us that sanctification is of the Spirit. 2 Thess. 2:13. This expression implies that sanctification is wrought by the Holy Spirit. Again, Paul says we are "sanctified by the Holy Ghost." Rom. 15:16. This latter declaration establishes my idea clearly. . . .

The very fact that the reception of the Holy Ghost is styled a baptism in the Bible proves that it is an instantaneous operation. In Acts 2:1-4, we are told that on the day of Pentecost the people were suddenly filled with the Holy Ghost. In Acts 10:44, 45, we read that the Holy Ghost "fell on" Cornelius and his household while Peter was preaching to them, and that the Holy Spirit was "poured out" upon them. In other places in Acts, we read that the Holy Spirit was received by the imposition of hands. Acts 8:17; 19:6. All this proves that the reception of the Holy Ghost is instantaneous.

—Wm. G. Schell

Who Are Saints?

The Catholic Church claims that those who are canonized by her are saints. She admits, however, that her saints are rare (few). It would be pitiful if only those canonized by the Catholic Church are saints.

But who are saints? In Paul's epistle to the Romans 1:7 he writes: "To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints." In 1 Cor. 1:2 he writes, "Unto the Church of God, which is in Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints." In 2 Cor. 1:1 he writes, "Unto the Church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia." And in Eph. 1:1, "To the saints

that are at Ephesus and to the faithful in Christ Jesus." And in Phil. 1:1, "To the saints in Christ Jesus which are in Philippi." Jude writes, "To them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ." Jude 1:1.

The saints then, are those who are beloved of God, that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, the Church of God, the faithful in Christ Jesus, and sanctified by God the Father. Every "born again" person who lives in fellowship with God is a saint. That is evident from the above Scripture passages. It is hard for us poor human beings to grasp the full meaning of this transformation. We are made saints when we repent of and forsake our sins, surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ and let Him take over in our hearts and lives. We don't have to be canonized by any church body to become a saint. We let God do the canonizing, then there is no mistake made.

We are not made saints by any good works that we have done or can do. We are called to be saints through Christ and His finished work on Calvary.

May the assurance that we are saints spur us on to live more saintly lives by the grace of God.

—R. Matson

The Right Decision



Unto a youth the gospel came,
Exhorting him in Jesus' name,
To turn from sin, embrace the truth,
And serve the Lord in days of youth.

The youth replied, "I know that's right,
So I will seek the Lord tonight.
All sinful pleasures I'll forsake,
And serve the Lord for Jesus' sake.

"I'll not delay another day,
This very night I'll kneel and pray.
Down at the altar there so fair,
I know the Lord will hear my prayer.

"O Lord, hear my earnest plea,
Forgive my sins, and set me free.
Yes, I believe the work is done—
With patience I the race will run.

"God's presence will abide with me;
He will bless and keep me free.
I long His sweet will to obey—
I'll follow Jesus all the way.

"Companionship with Him is fine;
Now I am His, and He is mine.
His Word is now my lamp and light;
It will guide me day and night.

"And when my work on earth is done,
And I the crown of life have won,
With my Redeemer I shall be
In the Home He has prepared for me."

—Ulysses Phillips

"FAITH AND VICTORY"**16-PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend campmeetings) by Lawrence D. Pruitt, assisted by Marie Miles and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla.)

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21 and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same gospel which Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including the divine healing of the body. James 5:14, 15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the services and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Co-operation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way the Bible and the Holy Spirit teaches you to do or stirs your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Exodus 25:2; 1st Chron. 29:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Free-will offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

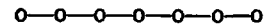
FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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EDITORIALS

Holy Christian greetings to all our readers of this September issue: According to our usual practice, no paper was published for the month of August, which allowed time for our faithful co-workers to attend campmeetings in July and August. However, activity continued here at the Lord's Printshop through most of the summer. The orders for gospel literature were filled almost every work day, and the letters were answered. Bro. Randall Flynn reprinted the large Church of God hymnal.

Quantities of gospel tracts, papers and booklets were sent or taken to various campmeetings and tent meetings for free distribution. Your free-will contributions have made this literature ministry possible, and thereby you are laying up treasures in heaven, as Jesus commanded. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21.

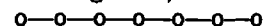


For the 38th year, this writer and his wife have been privileged to attend the National campmeeting at Neosho (Monark Springs), Missouri, which ended with victory on July 27. The large attendance came from many states, and many new people were there. The Spirit of conviction rested heavily on the unsaved through the preached Word, and many experienced the joy of salvation through the knowledge of sins forgiven. It was sad to see that many others turned down the gracious invitation, perhaps for the last time. Believers were sanctified, and others testified of divine physical healing during the meeting. Messages of truth on various Bible doctrines went forth with anointing to enlighten the hearers, as the Holy Spirit (the one and only Pulpit Committee) placed in the pulpit the minister of His choosing. Divine love, unity, and holy fellowship prevailed in the camp. The ordinances of the Lord's House were observed with many saints participating in all these solemn and sacred services.

During the year improvements were made on the campgrounds and in the kitchen and dining hall. Water and electric lines were laid to serve campers and trailers in the northeast area, and the water line was connected to the caretakers' residence. The managers, caretakers, trustees and workers are to be commended for their sacrificial service for the benefit of the campmeeting and those in attendance.

Our Bible Book Store was open on the grounds where Bibles and other gospel literature were made available to those in attendance. It was our pleasure to meet many of our readers whom we had known before, as well as a number of new people who were attending the meeting for their first time.

The dates of the campmeeting next year were set for July 23 to August 1, 1976.



Good reports have come from campmeetings held at various locations—from Hammond, La., Jefferson, Ore., Akron, Ohio, Ojos Negros, Mexico, the National campmeeting at Neosho, Missouri, Myrtle, Mo., and

Bakersfield, Calif. Many souls have been saved, believers sanctified, and bodies healed by divine power. At this writing, the campmeetings at Boley, Okla., and Blackford, Ky., are in progress. A number of us from Guthrie attended the Boley meeting on the first Sunday, and others attended during the following week. The tabernacle was filled to capacity on Sunday and the Word was preached with holy anointing which stirred the hearts of the hearers.

We pray and trust that when all the campmeetings are ended for the season no one who heard the gospel invitation will voice this lamentation: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. God's Spirit may not strive with that soul again. How sad if He's gone forever!

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Bro. Leslie Busbee, pastor here at Guthrie, Okla., left on Aug. 19 to attend the California State campmeeting at Pacoima which will be held from August 22 to 31, 1975.

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The Lord permitting, the last campmeeting of the season will be held at Fresno, Calif., 7249 East Kings Canyon Road, from September 5 to 14, 1975.

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The annual autumn meeting in Wichita, Kansas, will be held, Lord willing, on August 29 to Sept. 7. The chapel is located at 1701 N. Ash Street.

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Congratulations to Bro. Randall and Sister June Flynn for their daughter, Delores June, who was born on August 5, 1975. Bro. Flynn is one of the faithful co-workers here at the Lord's Printshop, and we are happy to have this family associated with us in the gospel publishing work. Their address is 1220 W. Washington, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

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Several of those attending the evangelistic tent meeting held the first ten days of August in New Castle, Indiana, reported that the meeting was very profitable and timely in that area.

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The 512-page Church of God hymnal, "Evening Light Songs," which has been out of stock for about 45 days, is in the process of reproduction, and we expect this hymnal to be available again by Sept. 20. The very reasonable price is \$3.00 each, plus postage and handling.

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A reprint edition of the book, "Bible Readings for Bible Students and for the Home and Fireside," compiled by S. L. Speck and H. M. Riggle, is now in stock. Originally published in 1902, this excellent volume contains 432 pages of Scripture references and comments on many subjects for Bible study. Bound in a nice cloth cover, this book is a "must" for Bible students. The price is \$5.00 each, plus 45¢ for the postage and handling.

Write for our full price list of Bibles, books, and cards. Listed in our book stock are many of those excellent old books written by the pioneer ministers of the Church of God Reformation which had been

out of print for many years. More of these old books of vital truth will be reprinted and added to our stock as time, means, and help permit. Watch for publication dates in future issues of this paper.

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God's Miraculous Supply of Funds . . .

During the past 45 days this office has paid \$18,951.27 to the IRS on tax assessments of various kinds, but the Lord who owns and controls this publishing work has, through His people, miraculously supplied this large sum to meet the obligation. All praise to God and many thanks to our readers who have so loyally supported the Lord's work with your means and prayers. Your concern will be rewarded. Only in that great reckoning day will the details of the gifts and givers be revealed.

In praying about these tax assessments, and wondering why the Lord's money should go to the government to be spent on worthless projects, I was reminded of the Scripture where Jesus and Peter were assessed a certain amount of government tax. It is noted that Jesus did not object to paying the tax. They did not have the money with which to pay it, but Jesus did not beg, borrow, or ask anyone for the money. Jesus simply sent Peter to the sea to catch a fish, take the money from its mouth and pay their tax. This is just one of God's multitude of ways to supply a need. This divine example also indicates that we, His disciples, should pay the assessed tax and not question how it will be spent by the authorities. Neither should we use questionable methods and ways to meet the financial obligations in God's work. After about 50 years of experience in the gospel work, my late father, Fred Pruitt, declared that it was just as easy for God to supply a thousand dollars as one dollar when the real need arose. Our heavenly Father is unlimited in His power and authority. . . . Some time ago, a Brother in the Lord obeyed the direction of the Lord in a dream to send \$1,000.00 to the Lord's work. A while later he was notified that he had several hundred dollars' worth of wheat in an elevator which he did not know about. God will repay His faithful stewards in one way or another.

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Ministers' Meeting Begins October 7 . . .

A general ministers' meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at the chapel here in Guthrie, Okla., on October 7, 8 and 9, 1975. The last ministers' meeting held in June proved to be very beneficial, and the ministers decided to hold a similar meeting each year in October. Come praying with a desire for continued harmony and unity, and expecting the Holy Spirit to impart a real spiritual outpouring. The Apostle Paul exhorted: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25. Surely, the signs of the times indicate that the coming of the Lord in judgment is very near, so the Apostle is warning us to meet and ex-

hort one another so much the more as we see that solemn day approaching. The manner of some is to forsake their assembling together with God's people, but this exhortation is contrary to that practice. If the Lord delays His coming, no doubt they will see the time when they would be overjoyed to meet with one saint when they are isolated in a Siberian-type torture camp. Now is the time to take advantage of the blessed privilege of liberty and freedom to meet with God's people in holy fellowship to receive spiritual instruction and correction from God's Word.

The dining hall and dormitory facilities will be available to the ministers. Offerings for the support of these facilities should be sent directly to the treasurer, Sister Frances Deforth, R. 2, Guthrie, Ok. 73044.

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At press time word was received that Sharon (Watkins) Ellis passed away on August 25 in Salem, Oregon, after a long illness. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her husband, Kedron, her parents and all other relatives in their time of sorrow. While she was single, Sharon worked here at the Lord's Printshop about four years—from 1962 to 1966.

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Grateful for Additional Co-workers . . .

In answer to prayer, the Lord has called and sent more consecrated helpers to His Printshop, for which we are very grateful. Bro. Delmar and Sister Linda Craddock and their children, Bunnie and Chris, arrived in Guthrie on July 28 from Illinois. They are at home at 1005 W. Warner, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Then on August 14, Bro. Robert and Sister Irma Gayle Sallee and their little daughter, Gayle René, arrived in Guthrie from Louisiana, and now they are at home next door east of the office. Their address is 916 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. These brethren, Bro. Craddock and Brother Sallee, are now busily engaged in the Lord's work in answer to His call, and we are happy to have these families with us in the publishing work. God makes no mistake in the changes that He makes for His children. We welcome them to the "Faith and Victory" family and to the Guthrie congregation.

Since the Lord has supplied additional workers, we are confident He is leading for more pure gospel literature to be printed and distributed world-wide where it is so desperately and urgently needed to counteract and combat the flood of atheistic communism, false religions, cults, and false Christianity with its multitude of erroneous teachings, both here and abroad. Let us continue to be "workers together" with the Lord in getting out the soul-saving gospel of Christ, lifting up the Bible standard of Christian conduct and setting forth the one, true, visible Church that Jesus built which is free and separate from the isms and schisms of men.

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Our sincere sympathy is extended to the relatives and friends of Sister Grace Henry who departed this life on July 31, 1975. She would have been 90 years of age on August 15.

A shipment of 10,000 pounds of printing paper at a cost of approximately \$3,000.00 has been ordered for delivery in September and October.

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In July, several thousand gospel tracts on the subject of salvation were printed in the Illocano dialect used in the Philippine Islands and mailed free of charge to four different mission workers in the Philippines for distribution. Other tracts translated into that language will also soon be printed and mailed to that area to help meet the urgent requests of tract distributors. About every day or week packages of tracts, papers, books, and Bibles are mailed free of charge to various nations of Africa, the Philippines, and India in response to their pleas for gospel literature. We pray that the gospel seed sown will germinate and grow in many hungry hearts and produce a bountiful harvest of souls for eternity. God's blessings and your co-operation have made this literature ministry possible. —L. D. Pruitt

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Partial List of Items Available

Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner by A. L. Byers. A reprint with additional pictures of pioneer ministers. Cloth bound, 496 pages. Price, \$4.50 each.

What The Bible Teaches by F. G. Smith. A reprint of the original 1914 edition, containing 576 pages in cloth binding. This is a book that should be in every home. Price, \$5.00 each.

Holy Spirit Baptism and the Second Cleansing by R. R. Byrum. Consists of 108 pages in heavy paper cover. Price, 50 cents each.

Prophetic Lectures on Daniel and the Revelation by F. G. Smith. It contains 260 pages. Price for heavy paper cover is \$3.00 each; cloth binding is \$4.50 each.

The Revelation Explained by F. G. Smith. Reprint of 1906 original edition (fourth reprint), plus two 17x22 inch wall charts in two colors. 464 pages in nice cloth cover. Price, \$4.50 each.

The Christian Church; Its Rise and Progress, by H. M. Riggle. Bound in cloth cover, 488 pages. Price, \$4.00.

Experiences of S. O. Susag is a record of the activities of S. O. Susag, a Norwegian who had many marvelous experiences and answers to prayer as an early-day minister of the Church of God. Originally published in 1948, the book contains 191 pages in a heavy paper binding. Price, \$1.25 each.

The Cleansing of the Sanctuary by D. S. Warner and H. M. Riggle. Reprinted verbatim in 541 pages, cloth binding. Price, \$4.50 each.

The Last Reformation by F. G. Smith. Just recently made available, this reprint edition contains 256 pages. Nice paper binding is priced at \$3.00 each, and the cloth binding is \$5.00 each.

Life's Golden Gleanings by Ruby E. Stover. She records many experiences of her childhood, and how God answered prayer in marvelous ways in her family and through the years in the gospel work. 94 pages in nice paper cover. Price, \$1.00.

Available at this office are four records of songs by the Bakersfield Evening Light Singers. Each of these 33 RPM records has from 10 to 12 songs. These records are

designated by number—No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4. Specify the record you want by the number. The price is \$5.00 each. This office receives no part of the profit from the sales, and the singers use the proceeds in the work of the Lord.

For postage and handling, add 25c for the first dollar and 5c for each additional dollar of total order.

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Obituaries



Mary Jo Stice, daughter of Joe and Minnie Baxter, was born September 13, 1896, at Elgin, Kansas and departed this life June 13, 1975, at Salem, Oregon, at the age of 78 years and nine months.

On October 11, 1914, she was married to Henry J. Stice at Dustin, Oklahoma. To this union nine children were born—five sons and four daughters.

They moved to Mill City, Oregon in 1937 and then to the Salem, Oregon area in 1941 where they were residing at the time of Sister Stice's death.

Sister Stice gave her heart to the Lord in 1914 soon after she was married. She felt that she had lapsed some in her faith and about ten years ago renewed her covenant with God and was faithful to that covenant until her death. Evelyn and I were with her for a couple of hours just prior to her passing and she was repeatedly affirming her love for Christ and hoping He would come for her soon. She asked that the song, "Nothing Between," be sung and testified that there was nothing between her and God.

She is survived by her husband, Henry J. Stice, Salem, Oregon; three daughters: Mrs. Shirley Gonzales, Woodburn, Oregon, Mrs. Violet Sparks, Atlanta, Georgia, and Miss Evallee Stice, Salem, Oregon; two sons: Dale Stice, Eugene, Oregon and Joe Stice, Salem, Oregon; one sister: Mrs. Maggie Dixon of Oklahoma; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Funeral service was conducted by Ostis B. Wilson on Monday June 16th at the Golden Funeral Chapel at Salem, Oregon with burial in the Rosedale Friends Cemetery in the Salem area. —Ostis B. Wilson

Jeremiah Steven Abbott, the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Abbott, was born on August 12, 1956, and departed this life on July 18, 1975, as a result of injuries sustained in a train mishap while driving his pickup.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Abbott; eight brothers, Joe, Arlington, Tex., John, with the U.S. Navy in San Diego, Calif., David, Bristow, Okla., Daniel, with the U.S. Air Force in Altus, Okla., Donnie, Lonnie and Michael, all of the home; four sisters, Jane Johnson, Okla. City, Amanda Medlose, Kimberley, Wis., Mary Smith, San Diego, Calif., and Sharon Abbott of the home.

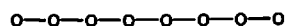
The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Charles Smith in the Hutchens-Maples Funeral Home chapel,

Bristow, Okla., on July 22, 1975, and the interment was in Forty Four Cemetery near Bristow, Okla.

Note of Thanks

Dear Saints: We greet each one in the name of our dear Saviour. We wish to thank all the dear ones for your kindness and sympathy in the loss of our son. Your prayers, cards and offerings were greatly appreciated, and also the beautiful flowers and the words of encouragement. We are so happy to be a part of God's family of saints. They are the best people on earth. There is such a vacant place in our home, yet we know God does all things well. This is the first death we have had in our family of 13 children. Just pray for us that we will keep submitted to God's will and do what He would have us to do.

In Christian love, —Bro. and Sis. George Abbott and family



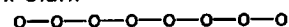
Edna Mae Powers was born to the union of the late William Edward Bass and Lillian (Porter) Bass on Feb. 13, 1932, in Wheeling, W. Va., and passed on July 13, 1975.

On June 16, 1956, she was united in marriage to Willie Lee Powers, of Akron, Ohio. To this union two sons and one daughter were born.

Sis. Edna Powers was saved in the Church of God (Evening Light) of Akron, Ohio, about a year before our Lord called her Home. She was faithful in obeying all the commandments of God to all that she knew, through the counseling of her pastor. Her continued illness prevented her from attending services, as she desired. She was always cheerful, patient, and put forth an effort to live as a devoted child of God.

Her husband, Willie Lee, three children, mother and step-father, five sisters and two brothers are left to mourn her passing.

Funeral services were conducted by Sis. Hazel Clark, pastor, assisted by Sis. LaDolia Fuller and Bro. Keith Fuller. —Sis. H. Clark



Henry Sherman Chaney, son of Ross and Mary L. Chaney, was born in Big Cane, La., on October 27, 1893, and departed this life on July 7, 1975, at the age of 81 years.

At the age of three years, his parents moved to Muskogee, Okla. He first met the Evening Light Saints and received salvation in 1915 in Grayson, Okla., at a meeting held by one of the pioneer ministers of the Church of God, Bro. Henry Robinson. On many occasions he accompanied Bro. Robinson to different meetings and on personal visits to the homes of the saints, as well as attending various campmeetings and brush arbor services.

With work booming in the rubber factories, he moved to Akron, Ohio, in 1928 and joined the saints already there, retiring from Goodyear in 1960.

Bro. Chaney was called to the ministry in 1934, and was ordained a minister of the Church of God in 1940. From 1940 to 1971, he pastored the Church of God congregation in Sandusky, Ohio. Never was the weather too inclement or conditions too adverse for him to make this trip.

Bro. Chaney was always deeply touched by the needs of others and sacrificed to help them, as well as having a deep love and concern for his large family. He

loved to sing the song, "The Old Account Was Settled Long Ago," and left this testimony that his life was clear and he was ready to go and be with the Lord.

"Like a rock in the billows I would stable be,

Till the storm is overpast;

Then I long to harbor, Lord with Thee,

In my heavenly Home at last."

He leaves to mourn his passing: his wife, Victoria; seven daughters, Mrs. Thelma Grant, Mrs. Blanche Porter, Mrs. La Vern Shaw, Mrs. LaDolia Fuller, Mrs. Viola Young, Mrs. Marie Hubbard, all of Akron, Ohio, and Mrs. Mary Lakin, Dayton, Ohio; two sons, Henry Jr. and Richard, both of Akron, Ohio; two brothers, Jim, Tulsa, Okla., and John, Toledo, Ohio; 27 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Lewis Williams, assisted by Bro. Woodrow Warren and Bro. Martin Samons, at the Church of God chapel, 419 W. Thornton, Akron, Ohio, with interment in the Mount Peace Cemetery.

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Lucy D. Phebus was born at Beatrice, Nebraska on March 17, 1897, and departed this life on August 7, 1975, at the age of 78 years, four months and twenty-one days.

Her husband preceded her in death in 1963.

Sister Phebus was converted in 1943 and was a member of the Church of God congregation in Pomona, California, where her brother, Ira D. Stover, was pastor at that time. Later she lived in Pacoima, California, and was a member of the Church of God congregation in that city until the time of her death.

About nine years ago, she suffered a stroke which left her in frail health from then on. At different times she had other lesser strokes which rendered her incapable of getting about and for some time she was not able to attend the services, but continued to persevere in her faith and to trust in God all the way to the end. She was faithful unto death, and according to God's promise shall receive the crown of life in that day.

She moved into the Church of God Senior Citizens' Home located on the saints' camp ground in Pacoima, California on the opening day, August 22, 1966, and continued there until the time of her death, and was the last one of the original residents of the Home. She was a very pleasant person and never offered any word of complaint whatever her conditions were.

She is survived by one daughter, Virginia Martin, of Los Angeles, California; three sisters: Mrs. Ethel Barbee and Mrs. Edith Wittenborn, both of Pacoima, California, and Mrs. Lydia Stark of Corona, California; two brothers: Ira D. Stover of Tulsa, Oklahoma and George Stover of Burbank, California; five grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Funeral service was conducted by Ostis B. Wilson at the Harford Funeral Home in Hemet, California, on August 11, 1975 with interment in San Jacinto Valley Cemetery.

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Mrs. Ernest (Janie Josephine) Perkins, Sr., was born on Nov. 19, 1905, at Waco, Texas, and departed this life at her home north of Sapulpa, Okla., on August 21, 1975, at the age of 69 years.

She was a member of the Church of God congregation on the old Sapulpa highway.

Sister Perkins is survived by her husband, Ernest; four sons, Ernest, Jr., of Mounds, Okla., Elmer of Beggs, Okla., Lee Roy of Glenpool, Okla., and Barton of Bowden, Okla.; six daughters, Juanita Welch, Francis Perkins, and Alta Bock, all of Tulsa, Okla., Dorothy Meek of Jenks, Okla., June Moore of Keystone, Okla., and Loretta Trowbridge of Bristow, Okla.; 46 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren; four sisters, Martha Hendricks and Bessie McKinney of Seminole, Okla., Bobbye Jones of La Puente, Calif., and Louise Brewer of Tulsa, Okla.; and one brother, Homer Cook of Pascagoula, Miss. One daughter, Thelma La Faver, one son, Frank, and two infants preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held at the Church of God chapel on the old Sapulpa-Tulsa highway with Bro. Richard Madden officiating. Scripture texts: James 4:17; 2 Cor. 5:1; John 14:1-3; Heb. 9:27; Psalms 23. Burial was in Green Hill Memorial Gardens under the direction of the Smith Funeral Home.

Note of Thanks

We wish to thank the Lord for His goodness to us and express our appreciation to all the dear saints for their prayers and acts of kindness during the extended illness and death of our dear companion and mother. Thank you also for the prayers and interest at the time of our other griefs during the last several months.

—Ernest A. Perkins Sr. and Family

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AKRON, OHIO CAMPMEETING REPORT

We are still rejoicing because of the way the Lord graciously blessed in the camp meeting here at Akron, from July 5th through 13th.

The Spirit of God was predominate in the services. The Word went forth with power and the Spirit gave utterance. Souls were saved, believers sanctified, bodies healed, and the saints edified and encouraged to maintain a living faith in God.

Many enjoyed the precious dealings of the Lord throughout the entire meeting, both spiritually and temporally. We appreciated the good attendance, and how all our needs were supplied by free-will offerings according to His riches in glory.

We appreciated those who came from a distance and those who were near. —Sis. Hazel Clark, pastor

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MISSOURI STATE CAMPMEETING REPORT

The State Campmeeting at Myrtle, Mo. was held August 1-10. We praise God for how He blessed in this camp meeting. A sweet spirit of love and unity prevailed. Several sought spiritual help at the altar of prayer. The Word of God went forth with power, and the saints were edified. The singing was also very heavenly. The whole meeting was richly anointed of God, for which we praise His holy name.

The meeting was well attended. We appreciate the presence of all who came, and extend a hearty welcome to all to come again. We also would like to thank all those who labored so faithfully in the kitchen. May God reward you richly. —Harlan Sorrell

TENT MEETING AT NOWATA, OKLA.

An evangelistic tent meeting will be held, Lord willing, in Nowata, Okla., on September 12 to 21, inclusive. Bro. and Sister Mart Samons will bring the tent and equipment, which will be located near the intersection of Highway Nos. 60 and 169.

A hearty invitation is extended to all to attend this tent meeting. Pray for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit with convicting power. All-day services will be held on Sundays with dinner in the park.

For further information, contact the pastor, Bro. Clifford Wilson, 536 S. Pine, Nowata, Okla. 74048, phone 918-273-3383.

ALL-DAY SERVICES AT DAYTON, OHIO

On the second Sunday of September (14), October (12), and November (9), 1975, all-day services will be held, Lord willing, at the Church of God chapel, 622 Tyron St., Dayton, Ohio.

A hearty welcome is extended to everyone to come and meet with the people of God. All within driving distance are urged to attend these services.

For further information, contact Bro. William McCoy, 619 Tyron Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45404, phone 513-236-5903.

WEEKEND SERVICES AT PRATTSVILLE, ARK.

On the third weekend of September, if the Lord wills, there will be special services at Prattsville, Arkansas. On Saturday night, Sept. 20, there will be a gospel singing, and all-day services on Sunday, Sept. 21. A cordial welcome is extended to all to attend these meetings, with a special invitation to the saints and ministers. We have no pastor, so there will be a special need for shepherds to feed the flock.

For further information, contact Bro. Doug Walters, Rt. 2, Box 100 M, Sheridan, Ark., phone 942-3321, or Bro. Clarence Bennings, Rt. 1, Prattsville, Ark., phone 699-4390.

—Bro. Doug Walters

AUTUMN GOSPEL SINGING AT MYRTLE, MO.

The Lord willing, the 7th annual fall gospel singing at Myrtle, Mo., will be held on Saturday night, Oct. 4, 1975. We extend an invitation to all to come and worship the Lord with us in holy song. This is not a time to put talent on exhibition, but rather to glorify God. If God inspires you with a song to sing, we certainly want to hear it.

The following day, Sunday, Oct. 5, there will be all-day services. Cabins and dormitories will be available for those who wish to stay on the campgrounds. Also, the saints will be happy to have you in their homes. We trust God will richly bless on this weekend. May we see you at this time.

—Harlan Sorrell

"Positive factors in building model families are time and listening. Parents and children should never stop doing meaningful activities together. Making a living is important, but it must never overshadow the process of rearing children."

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mo.—Remember Junior Sorrell. He had some teeth pulled and started hemorrhaging. He has lost much blood and is very, very weak. He needs healing of this condition. God is able to heal all manner of diseases.

Ill.—"I have had recurrence of cancer in my shoulder. . . I want the dear Lord to heal me and send me out in His work. . . my arm is so swollen. . . I still haven't heard from my boy. Saints, do pray, and I pray and believe that I will see him again." —Margaret Mumford

Canada—"Please pray for me. I have a ruptured bladder. My faith is in God for His healing power."

—Sis. Clare Smith

Calif.—"It really was a blow to Ira [Stover] when he was told that his sister was gone when we arrived [from Okla.]. . . For a few days I felt concerned about him as his nerves and heart seemed to bother him. . . I am sure it is only the Lord who has cared for him. . . Our trust is in Him. He was able to preach this a. m. [in the Calif. campmeeting]. Ethel [Ira's sister], who is here in the Home, is very bad in body and we don't know what will happen to her day by day. His oldest sister is not well, but seems to know us all. . . His brother [George] is very poorly. They need prayer." [Bro. Ira Stover was 75 on Aug. 16, 1975.] —Sis. Ruby Stover

Ore.—"Sis. King is still suffering with her leg and hip." —Sis. Evelyn Wilson

Mo.—"Sometime ago I made a request for prayer for my wife and me. We were in real need at the time. Thanks be to the Lord, he heard and answered prayer, and we were delivered. . . . Thanks for your prayers, but now I have another request. I have cataracts on both eyes. . . . Please pray that the good Lord will heal me." —John Cullins

Ark.—"There has come a skin over the sight of my left eye. . . . I am asking you to pray for my healing. I know there is nothing impossible with God."

—Cherry Alba

Ohio—"Please pray for Jethro Fletcher, my brother, whom God (4 months ago) brought back from the dead, in answer to the saints' prayers, so that he could have another chance to repent and be saved. Pray also for my other two unsaved brothers." —Sis. Helen Thomas

Ark.—"Remember my wife's half-cousin who had a stroke, lost her voice and is in a rest home. . . . I know the Lord can raise her up." —Bro. Andrew Gilliland

Mo.—"Been having a battle with kidney stones and my stomach bothering me, also asthma. . . . I need prayer." —Sis. B. Rumpfelt

Ind.—"There has been a small place on my body, like a wart for some time. . . . Lately it has turned black. I know of places like that which have turned into cancer. My mother died from this same thing. . . . Pray for me that the Lord will heal me. He has been my Healer for a long time. —Sis. Lettie West. [If any of the saints would like to visit her, contact us for her address—Editor]

Nigeria—"Jacob Ehinodo is suffering from a hernia." —F. S. Hwankpa

Ida.—Remember Sis. Ruby Marken's mother in prayer. She has been suffering a lot with her back.

Tex.—Sis. Velda Ellis has been suffering with gall bladder and hernia trouble. She is fully trusting the Lord.

Pray for a number of the dear saints whose husbands drink and are bound by different habits which cause the sisters great heartaches. Drunkards are sick people. The dear children suffer much from seeing their father live a life in sin. The abuse from a sick drinking man is more than some of our precious sisters in the Lord can take. We know God's grace is sufficient for everything, but they do need special prayer and encouragement. God loves wicked men and Jesus died on the cross so they, too, can be cleansed from sin and be healed and ready to go to heaven. Oh, if they would only turn to Him, He would save them and make them a "new creature in Christ Jesus." Jesus can break the habits that hold them. I am sure that many of them would love to be free from wickedness and sinful habits. Some have testified about how they would vow to do better, but they did not have the power. But through Christ, they can be delivered, just as others who have found help in Christ. So we need not be discouraged in praying for them. We need to show love, pity, and concern for husbands who are bound by the power of Satan. One dear saint was awakened after midnight by her husband and was asked to fix dinner for his drinking buddies. She cheerfully did as she was asked. After the meal, one who was more sober than the others told her that her kindness had filled all of them with surprise, and that their unreasonable visit was because of a bet which they had lost. One also told her that he knew that she was very religious and could not approve of their unreasonable conduct, but he asked why she was so kind. She told him that when she married her husband that she also was not converted and that God had called her out of that condition. She then said that she trembled for her husband, and if he should die in that state, he would be miserable forever and it was her duty to help him to be as comfortable now as possible. Her wise answer affected the whole company, and especially her husband, who later got saved. Only God gave her the grace to face the situation with calmness and faith. —Sis. Marie Miles

Note of Thanks

After our campmeeting here in Jefferson, Ore., I became very sick. We called to different places for prayer, as well as having the saints here pray. The Lord gave me a touch of healing, but I still need stronger nerves, so continue to pray for me.

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and calls. Jim Lynch, my son, also wants to thank the saints for their prayers, calls, and cards. He needs prayer that he can sleep better. —Sis. Evelyn Wilson

OJOS NEGROS, MEXICO MISSION REPORT

Dear Ones: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. Even though the visible results were small at our Ojos Negros campmeeting, there were some definite good results. We certainly appreciated all who were able to come and help. It was an encouragement to the workers and all. We trust the Lord will especially bless all who made the sacrifice. I know we don't have the most modern of conveniences to offer, but the Lord blesses us to use to the best advantage that which He

allows us. When the Lord is in a spiritual work, material things take a back seat.

The Lord so abundantly supplied provisions for the entire meeting. Although food prices have sky-rocketed, He provided plenty for everyone. We fed from 70 up to 125 or more, three times a day, for six days. We were reminded of the Lord's miracles in feeding the thousands. His arm is not short today. We surely did appreciate His owning and blessing the meeting, and using ministers of His choosing, bringing forth the Word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

On Saturday, before the meeting closed, 34 women and girls, and 11 men and boys partook of the foot-washing and Lord's supper. It was a precious service. The significance of both ordinances was clearly brought out, and blessed by the Spirit of the Lord.

After the meeting, some of us began a mission for the Lord in the interior of Mexico. This also was a profitable venture. The Lord blessed us in giving out hundreds of tracts, making several contacts where real interest was shown, and where there were new souls desiring closer contact with the saints and the Word of God, literature, etc. As a result of the mission, instead of sending out the six tapes each time a message is translated into Spanish, there will be, Lord willing, seven tapes and about fifty printed copies of the message sent out. We thank the Lord for the opportunity of having made contact with new souls who were hungry for the unadulterated Word of God. You who know the value of prayer, please pray that each one will continue faithful to the end. Pray that we will have strength and wisdom to carry on and get this material into their hands.

I take this opportunity to thank you one and all for each sacrifice made in behalf of the mission work, both at campmeeting time, and before and after. The Lord, who so richly blessed us in many ways, will bless you, too.

We desire many souls to be saved yet in Mexico. Pray for all the workers for soul and body.

Christian love and thanks, —Sis. Opal Kelly
Ap. Postal 284, Ensenada, B. C. Mex., or P.O. Box 3770, San Ysidro, Ca. 92073.

LETTER FROM MEXICAN MISSIONARY

Valle de Trinidad, B. Cfa., Mexico (August 4)—Bro. and Sis. Pruitt: May the peace of God fill your hearts, and may the grace of Jesus give you the power that you need each day.

We are well, thank the Lord. We are following in the path of Christ, and continue moving each day with faith in God who is faithful to His promise. I am full of joy in my soul because finally we have one more worker in Mexico. A brother of some 20 years of age and his wife came out of a sectarian church. God opened his understanding to see the truth of God. The other brethren and I are happy because of this brother and his wife. I believe that he will be very useful in the work here. I beg all the saints to pray much for him. His name is Mayorino and his wife's name is Francisca. Please pray much that they will not return to sectism. For now, we are helping him all we can.

Please pray much for me and my family. My family is going to live in Rosarito, so my older children can go to

school. Pray much for my children that they will see the need in their souls.

Thanks very much to all the saints for their offerings. May God bless them richly.

Christian love and prayer, —Tomas Mendoza

MEXICO MISSION LETTER

Patzcuaro, Mexico (July 15)—The campmeeting in Ojos Negros has come and gone, and eternity will prove what was accomplished through the six days of meeting. The messages went forth in love and power, but no one moved toward God. May the Word not be forgotten and may it still be the means of their salvation.

Three car-loads of us and other people went to the meeting from Patzcuaro, a total of 37 people. More people were there for the campmeeting than ever before. The young girls all helped make the pans full of tortillas each day, and helped with peeling potatoes and cleaning beans. We cooked outside on a home-made stove

We need your prayers, as we are living in spiritually dangerous times and need strength to overcome the enemy of our souls.

Christian love, —Sister Edith (Cole) Lara

LETTERS FROM NIGERIAN MISSIONS

Tombia via Port Harcourt, Nigeria (Aug. 5)—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. Thank you for your kind letter dated July 15 with the enclosures for gospel workers. The Bible says it is more blessed to give than to receive

We just finished a Spirit-filled revival meeting of four evenings at Port Harcourt, and we distributed many "Faith and Victory" papers, tracts and booklets. There is much gospel work here to do. Pray for me as I am praying for you.

Yours in Christ, —B. Ben Taylor

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Midwest State Nigeria (August 7)—Greetings in the name of Jesus, our Saviour. Your letter dated July 2 was received. We thank you for the enclosures. We are expecting the package of tracts which you mailed to us. They will be prayerfully distributed into the hands of those needing release from the bondage of Satan

The congregations in Kwale are marching on with victory.

Your Brother, —Titus U. E. Enu, pastor

MISSION REPORT FROM INDIA

Kerala, S. India (July 20)—Dear Bro. Pruitt and the dear saints abroad: We send our loving greetings to you again in the holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom "we have peace with God . . . by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Rom. 5:1-5.

Thank you very much for your letter dated July 2, and the enclosures were noted with overflowing gratitude.

The circulation of our magazine, "Evening Light," is increasing much now. The first issue was 500 copies, the second issue 1000 copies, and the third much more. Each month the number of copies increases as more people demand it. The cover picture of the first issue was that of my father, C. M. Varghese. Now I am getting many letters from the readers from different parts of India saying the magazine is a real blessing to them in their spiritual progress.

I am rejoicing much to read the reports of the campmeetings there, which are resulting in the salvation, sanctification, and edification of many souls. I have been praying for all those meetings.

The rainy season still continues here, but praise the Lord, the saints are protected under the wings of God. The gospel activities everywhere here are going forward.

We always pray for your healing and your efforts in publishing the gospel.

With love and prayers, I am yours in Christ,

—John Varghese

FROM THE MAIL BOX . . .

Kentucky—Dear Bro. Pruitt and all God's children at the Printshop: May God bless all of you and supply the means that are needed to carry on the work at the office. May the "Faith and Victory" paper be sent around the country to give encouragement to the saints and cause souls to be saved. If there was ever a time that people needed the truth, it is now. The old devil is loose in the world and he is doing his best to destroy and ruin all he can, and he is taking his toll. What we need today is preachers who will preach the truth and more truth I love God's Holy Word.

I ask prayer for myself and also for my dear wife who is in a very critical condition at this time. Please pray that if it is God's will that He will spare her, but may God's blessed will be done. She surely is one of God's faithful children, and she has great faith in all of the saints. She says that is where her confidence is when it comes to teaching the whole truth.

May God bless one and all there at the Printshop.

Your Bro. in the faith, —Frank Dunaway

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Oklahoma—Dear Sis. Miles: I really do enjoy reading all the good tracts you sent. It helps me to keep close to God. I don't know what I'd do if I couldn't go to God for help in time of need. God is always there on His throne. He is ready to help us when we call on Him.

Our government is in such a turmoil. There seem to be so many Communists in authority and all around us. The only thing we can do is pray and trust God to give us wisdom and knowledge to know what to do. People are upset and just don't know which way to go. People need to turn back to God. The Bible tells us that in the last days God will send distresses such as never had been known. God's Word says that it is appointed unto man once to die and after this the judgment. Thank God, I am glad I gave my heart to God over 45 years ago. I wouldn't exchange this experience for all the world's goods, money, fine homes and cars. If you ask people about their souls' need, they say, "I am living the best I can". What they need is to be

saved, and filled with God's holy Spirit. I am sure they could live right. They say they are all right, yet so many don't wear enough clothes to hide their bodies. People are like they were in Noah's day. They laughed at him, and now they are doing just like they did before God destroyed the world with water. Well, praise the good Lord, there will be a few who will make it to heaven if we stay in God's hands and under the blood.

Pray for my three children that God will save them, and also pray for me. I pray for you dear saints at the print shop. Prayer changes things. Jesus said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world". Though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, God is still with us. —Sister Della Harrison

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Pa.—Dear Friends: I have been meditating on God and His scriptures. They mean so much to me. It says in Ps. 103:2, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." How true it is, that we do receive many, many benefits and blessings, and we should not forget that they come from God.

I appreciated that article in the July paper that Sis. Marie wrote, "Gone Through". It meant much to me, and I read and reread it . . .

My eyes are some better and I am holding on for complete victory. Pray earnestly for me as I have other illnesses, but I am fully convinced that God will touch my eyes and body. —Mrs. Bernice S. McKenrick

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Minn.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings of love in Jesus' holy name. This leaves me well in soul and body, for which I thank the Lord. Time is swiftly passing away and I am getting older day by day. That Home so bright is soon in sight. Thank God for providing a beautiful Home when this life's work is over. I am still praying for all of God's people that He will hold them in the hollow of His hand, as it appears that His coming will be soon. I love the Lord because He first loved me, and put my sins as far as the east is from the west to remember them no more.

Much love and prayer, —Bro. Andrew Senti

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W. Va.—Dear Bro. Pruitt: Greetings in the name of the Lord. I recently discovered the "Faith and Victory" paper and was really blessed. Thank God for a paper that really tells the truth. I once read the book, "Birth of a Reformation—Life and Labors of D. S. Warner" and I thought how glorious it would be to see a paper such as he published. I believe God has one in the "Faith and Victory". Please keep it that way.

Your Brother in the Lord, —William W. Moseley

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Mich.—Greetings in the name of Jesus, the Son of the living God, who loved us so much that He died on Calvary so we could be set free from our sins and have our relationship restored with God, our heavenly Father.

I trust this letter finds all of you in good health, and that things are going well at the print shop. We are all fine here.

I trust your campmeetings are all a blessing to everyone and souls are being saved, sanctified, and healed. I pray that God will supply you with Holy Spirit-filled preachers for each meeting. That is what we need—more of God-called preachers who are filled with

the Holy Spirit. God should send the preachers He wants to bring the messages instead of man appointing some man to do the preaching. I just finished reading, "The Last Reformation," by F. G. Smith. It is a good book.

Yours in Christ, —Bro. Bob Randolph

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

N. Mexico—Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus: I trust all is well with all of you. I pray God to grant all your prayer requests. The dear Lord is so kind and loving to all of His children, and does hear and answer our prayers. He is a present help in every time of need. I thank and praise Him from the depth of my heart.

Christian love, —Ruth Doolittle

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Calif.—Greetings of Christian love: I am pressing on against the enemy of our souls. I love the truth in the books and papers you publish. They are a blessing to my heart. I felt the Lord would be pleased for me to go from door to door, giving out the tracts and papers, which I did. Most of the people took them and said, "Thank you." This was encouraging . . .

I am praying for my unsaved husband and children. I want them to be saved. It looks like the Lord's return couldn't be far away.

Love, —Edith Reavis

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Wisc.—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus: I hope all are well in soul and body, enabling each one to follow where He leads. Praise the Lord!

All is well here, too. Those outside the fold who refuse the gift of God, who want to enjoy the good (?) times in this world, when they see the end coming, plan to quickly give the crumbs of their lives to God so that they may be able to pass into eternal life. How can this be? Will the Lord accept them according to their plans? I'm afraid too many people are too ready to believe what the enemy of souls offers to their minds and will find themselves lost souls forever.

At present we number four. All the rest have gone their own ways. We always keep them in mind and in prayer . . . We truly need prayer for these dear ones especially, and that the Lord will keep us near Himself so we will not find ourselves coming short of the glory of God. —Sis. Florence Knoll

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Greetings to all in the precious name of Jesus: I trust this finds all of you well and encouraged to press on and keep the truth coming out by the printed page.

I thank God for the strength He daily gives me, and that I am His and He is mine.

May God bless and keep you all true to Him until He comes. —Sis. Adah Smalley

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Wisconsin—Dear Bro. Pruitt and co-workers: Greetings of love, mercy, and peace in the name of the Prince of Peace. May this find you encouraged and strengthened in the true and only way. The Lord is so good to us every day. We certainly have blessings the world can never know.

A young man worked with me and he denied the existence of God and held Him in contempt. He said he

was his own god. I told him that if he meant that from his heart, he was in a very dangerous condition. When God takes His shield of mercy from any man's life, he is totally in the hands of Satan. That was the last time I spoke to him of the Lord. Last Tuesday, August 12, he was killed on his motorcycle as he came to work. He hit a squad car going on an emergency call. I believe God knows down in our hearts what we mean, and I believe this man's heart was empty of any feeling toward God. He was only 23 years old with a wife and young child.

Bobby Huskey and I went to Racine for services this morning and we will go back tonight . . . Bro. Eddie Wilson was in Racine a couple of weeks ago and will be back there to hold a meeting from Sept. 5 to 14.

Love to all in Jesus, —Bro. George Hammond

Testimonies and Answers to Prayer



S. Carolina—Greetings in Jesus' name: I am much encouraged today to press on toward heaven, as that is my highest aim. We hope all of you are doing fine in body and happy in your soul.

We did enjoy ourselves in the Monark Springs camp meeting. We met quite a few of the saints and we love them every one, no matter who they are or where they come from—just so they are a child of God. They are my brothers and sisters in the Lord. I am not ashamed to own them either. Some people might claim to be God's children and then have a little pride in their hearts or in their actions, but I don't believe we can go to heaven if we have any, do you? God said for us to show our love in word and in truth.

Pray for us here, that we will keep in the will of God at all times. There are a few sick folks here who need help, so pray for them. —Sis. Edna Crummie

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Georgia—Dear Sister Marie and helpers in the Printshop: Greetings to all of you in the lovely name of Jesus who came into the world to save us from our sins. I certainly do humbly appreciate everything the Lord has done and is still doing for me. I am sending prayers to God night and day for the salvation of souls. The Lord's coming is getting close and it is praying time now as never before.

We were blessed to have a joyous and happy revival meeting here at Swainsboro from June 28 through July 4, 1975. The Lord had His way in the three services each day. Bro. Tom Melot and Bro. Danny Doolittle arrived safely to help in the meeting. Bro. Melot certainly did preach the whole truth of God's Word. We pray that God will ever bless and keep them under the shadow of His wings. The ordinances of the Lord's House were administered at the meeting. We praise our God for a mind to do the will of God fully. Pray much for us as we are doing for all of you. —Sister P. R. Bowers

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Kansas—Dear Bro. Pruitt and Christian workers: I am glad to be saved and sanctified as I live in this wicked world. Thank God for freedom from all of the things that hold so many in bondage. The more I see people being ruled by cigarettes, liquor, fashions, and worldly

pleasures, the more I appreciate my salvation. As I perform on the stage of life, I want to successfully play the role that God has assigned to me, because I know that my life is affecting someone, even though I may not know who that person may be.

May the Lord bless all of you who are laboring to publish the gospel. I pray that the Lord will bless you, Bro. Pruitt, and all of the others, who are battling sore afflictions. Even though I am young and do not know what it really means to be sorely afflicted, the Lord has shown me that it is needful for me to have enough faith myself so that I may help to do for others as Aaron helped to do for Moses—hold up their arms with prayer as they raise them in victory. The Lord has let me endure some very trying hours to help me to get the faith that I need. Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to me and all of His children. —Letha Phillips

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Ohio—Dear Bro. Lawrence and all: Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. We are still saved and pressing toward the mark set before us. My soul is much encouraged, as we surmount the many discouraging elements and works of the enemy of our soul. Praise God! We realize that the many trials and burdens are but stepping stones to glory.

Words cannot express how thankful we are today for the great mercy of our Father in sparing our lives, and the numerous miracles wrought in the terrible auto accident on the trip to my daughter's (Francine) wedding in San Bernardino, Calif. My sister, La Vern Shaw, my two younger children and my grandson and myself were motoring out . . . On May 28th at 6:00 a.m., we started on our 2nd day. Sis. La Vern was driving. I talked with her for about 15 minutes and then played a tape that we had with us of the congregation singing songs. About 20 miles west of Kearney, Nebraska, and many miles from Akron, Ohio, (home) a deer ran into the car and caused the car to veer out of control, and turn over on its top. We traveled on the top for about 150 feet. We had a carrier on top and it was knocked off when the car turned over. While we were sliding down the highway on the car top (4-door hard-top), the Lord was right by my side assuring me and comforting my heart. The tape was still going and the song was page 162 in "Evening Light Songs" book, "Be not afraid 'tis I, 'tis I, though the storm rages wild; In thy sore need I'm passing by, offering to help thee, hear thy cry. Be of good cheer, my child." Oh, praise His holy name! I felt the very presence of God at my side. There wasn't one cry or outburst from the children. My son slept through it all. The car came to a stop about two feet from a downhill grade. The windows were all broken out except the back one. The roof of the car was crushed down to the dash board and slanted up to the rear window. There seemed to be no way out and glass was all around. I could hear cars going past but no one stopped. I sat and prayed for God to send us help. He showed me an opening in the door about 10 inches wide. I crawled out of the car to get help. I comforted the children. Sis. La Vern was quiet. I couldn't see her, but could hear her. She wanted to know if the children were all right. I assured her they were. I flagged down a passing pick-up truck and a man and his wife helped us. Soon there were people all around us

helping. Sis. La Vern was hurt and pinned in the car. Help arrived and we were all taken to the hospital. Some of us had cuts and bruises. Sis. La Vern was in a semi-unconscious state. We called home and notified our families and Sis. Clark. The people were so kind to us there in Kearney. My clothes in the carrier and the car were just as we had placed them leaving home. Praise to our Father! A family loaned us a car as long as we were there, which was greatly needed in order to visit with Sis. La Vern and to take the children with me and also to go out to eat. We were given a cut in the cost of our motel rooms and helped in every way. There wasn't a saint any where around that we knew of, but God supplied our needs. My car was totally demolished. Two state troopers that were greatly used of God helped me. A telephone call came informing us that tickets for the children and myself were waiting at the airport. To this day I have not been told who sent the tickets. May God richly bless the one responsible. The Lord told Sis. La Vern He would take care of her, and we departed for Calif. on May 30. Sis. La Vern returned to Akron in four days, on June 4 The Lord also blessed us with a flight home from Calif. We do give His name all praises for what He has and is doing for us. The Lord has added more years to our life and by His grace we mean to do His will and dedicate the rest of our life to His service. Do pray for me, as we are in a severe trial, but looking to God to deliver us.

Your Sister In His Service, —Sis. La Dolia Fuller

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Calif.—I am glad I am saved and that God loved us and sent His only Son to die for us all. What love! I am glad we don't have to live in sin. The good Lord has been so good to me and all of His faithful children. The old devil is surely raging these days. We surely have to watch, or he will trap us somewhere along the way—not in big things, but in small things.

I thank the Lord for His protecting us when we had an earthquake the other day. We don't know what will come next. I also thank all who prayed for me when my nerves were so bad. I think I would have lost my mind if it had not been for prayers and God's help. Praise His name! He brought me through! What a mighty God we serve! —Sister Ada Leach

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Ohio—Greetings of love to all saints and those who labor in love to make it possible for us to read the "Faith and Victory" paper. I am thanking the Lord for His miraculous blessings during the accident that my sister, (LaDolia Fuller) and I had near Kearney, Nebraska, on our way to her daughter's wedding in California. I don't remember too much about the accident, for I had a head wound that cut to the very bone and required stitches, damage to my left foot (that is yet in the process of healing), and back and chest injuries (including my left lung, which caused pain in breathing), but thank the Lord, there were no broken bones. I was in a dazed condition in the emergency room, but I thank God, I could let the doctors and nurses know that I believed in divine healing and I didn't want medication or shots, but just to have my wound stitched up. Not at any time did they try to force medication on me. After I was there a couple of days I had several X-rays. The doctor told me I had a

spot on my lung, but I was so thankful that the Lord had assured me the night before that He would take care of me. It did not matter what the doctor said, for I rested on my Father's Word The people in Kearney, Nebraska were so kind and hospitable, and also the doctors and nurses, too. I surely thank God On my flight home from Omaha to Akron, I had a wheel chair waiting to take me on and off the plane until my arrival home I have no murmur or complaint, as my heavenly Father knows what is best. There was a purpose for this accident. May God work it out to His glory. My sister had a vision of the accident, but did not tell me about it until later. We thank God for all His blessings. I am much encouraged to press on.

Pray for us and fairly. —Sis. La Vern Shaw

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Mo.—Dear Saints: I want to take this opportunity to thank the Lord for His mercy to us recently. On July 2 my husband and two sons, Harlan and Dennis, were hauling hay on two trucks and trailers. Dennis was alone in one truck, and had a flat tire on the trailer. He had stopped at the edge of the highway to change it. A trailer truck came up behind him and started to pass him, but then for some reason, applied his brakes and jack-knifed, throwing the truck trailer into the hay trailer. Dennis was standing near the trailer. The impact threw him to the pavement under the truck. It was just the mercy of the Lord that the truck stopped before it ran over him.

We believe the tire jack must have hit him in the face. He had severe cuts on his face, one finger broken and half cut off, some teeth broken, and a bruised foot. The cuts required over 50 stitches. He was rushed to the hospital. He looked so bad that people didn't recognize him. But we thank God for causing the hospital to release him after two days and nights. Truly, God's loving hand was over Dennis and spared his life. We can't praise the Lord enough for His love and protection. His face looked like it would be scarred pretty badly, but he is looking real good now, considering the deep cuts that he had. He healed up in less than two weeks. I know this is another answer to prayer. A lot of saints were praying, and we do appreciate your prayers, and the many cards and the flowers he received.

We thank God for a Christian home and children who love the Lord and want to do right. We desire the prayers of the saints, that we will live worthy of these blessings, and be the example we should be.

Christian love, —Carol Sorrell

o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o

Kansas—Dear Bro. Pruitt, all the workers at the Printshop, and all the dear saints scattered abroad: Greetings of love in Jesus' dear name.

I want to thank each of you for the great love and compassion that you showed to me during my illness. I received so many beautiful cards, as well as letters, and telephone calls. I appreciated all the prayers that were offered up in my behalf. May God bless you!

It was May 13th, when this affliction came upon me. There was a severe, burning, deep pain, just above the knee, on the inside of my left leg, and it moved upward into the groin, causing places to form that had all the appearance of risings; but, oh, so tender and painful. My left leg, from the knee to my hip, became

numb, and would have such hot, searing pains, but thank God, He knew all about it.

I had always been very active, not knowing any severe sickness, or confinement, but, dear ones, God gave me patience to lie there day after day waiting upon Him. Praise His holy name! I was given so many opportunities to witness to our dear neighbors and loved ones. They couldn't understand why I didn't go and have an examination or X-rays made. I told them that God knew all about my troubles, and that I had it fully settled to go all the way with my hand in His. The dear Lord blessed us with much love for those who came to see us. They all wanted to do us good, but were short of understanding.

I was asked by one loved one, "Who is your physician?" I told of having only One, the Lord, and they said, "Oh, I mean, what if you have to have your leg amputated? What would you do?" I told them that I purposed to take all the members of my body to the grave with me. Their reply was, "You ought to lay there and die if that is the way you feel." Bless their hearts, they didn't hurt me one bit.

One of my loved ones was telling how God blesses man in surgery and in the administration of drugs and medicine. I told him that he knew how that God had made heaven and earth. Then God said, "Let us make man." God told man to replenish and populate the earth. God never told man to populate the moon, but through man's great wisdom and learning God has permitted man to go to the moon. From the beginning God did not intend for the heart of one person to be removed and disposed of, then the heart of another to be transplanted, but God is allowing man to do this. I told them that I was not fussing at them for trusting in the arm of flesh, for that is their privilege, but I also consider it a blessed privilege that I have to trust my all into the hands of a living God. Bless His name!

Had I gone for X-rays or an examination, my illness might have been diagnosed as something that would have caused great fear to seize upon me and would have given the enemy a place to come in like a flood, and possibly have caused me to go down. "Fear hath torment."

Dear ones, let us be true to God. He is able to deliver us, regardless of the circumstances. Let each of us look unto ourselves, and examine ourselves. We will have to stand alone at the Judgment bar of God . . . I was in bed seven weeks, and out of services eight weeks. I have had some good schooling, and learned many precious lessons.

I also want to give praise and honor to my dear wife, children, and grandchildren for all they did for me during my illness. Words fail me in expressing my gratitude to all of you.

Your Bro. in Christ, —Ralph M. Beisly

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

N. Carolina—Greetings to all in the name of Jesus: I want to thank all of you for the wonderful paper, "Faith and Victory", that you saints are putting out. I have been reading your paper about nine months now. God called me from a life of sin into His marvelous light about ten months ago. Praise His holy name! I once was lost in sin and had some terrible habits. I was a heavy tobacco user, abuser of alcohol,

and a drug addict and pusher. May this testimony help some poor soul to see that Jesus can deliver a soul from every habit and disease we bring to Him by faith, because the Lord said, "If thou canst believe; all things are possible to him that believeth."

I am back to my old trade now—a commercial fisherman on the North Carolina Coast. So many down here by the water need the healing power of God. It is a blessing to my soul to read and hear of such testimonies of divine healing. It seems that everyone is trusting doctors these days. There is only one Church of God building around this fishing village and the rest are sectarian churches. Please pray for us down here, that the Lord will send Holy Ghost conviction on these souls.

Keep up the good work for the Lord at the Printshop. —Frankie Millis

Make Full Proof of Thy Ministry



The minister, Timothy, was trained in his home and taught the scriptures while he was young. His mother and grandmother were his teachers, but God was the Author of instruction. The groundwork for Timothy's future ministry was laid in the home. We get good teachings in the church, but the home teaching is truly valuable. We build our character there.

2 Timothy 2:15, "Study [give diligence] to shew [present] thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing [handling aright] the word of truth." The Word will be ineffectual if preached by one who is not an earnest, diligent student of it. The student of the Scriptures will seek to be "approved unto God" in the handling of His truth, and as a workman in spiritual things he will not be ashamed of his workmanship. There is a great difference between the superficial exhortation and the preaching that is richly anointed and full of Biblical exposition. The former leaves the soul hungry, while the latter stirs the soul to its depths! Handling the Word of Truth aright is appreciated by every child of God!

Eph. 4:11, "And he gave some apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." Here we find a place for each minister. **There is a place for you.** Search the Scriptures, seek God; it is His will to grant a special place just for you to gain knowledge, training, and experience. Find that place and wait! This is difficult, because our human nature wants to hurry and start "on-the-job" training, before we are aware of the requirements.

Timothy had many years of learning the Scriptures in his home. While Timothy was yet a young man, God sent the Apostle Paul to be his teacher. Read the letters of balanced instruction Bro. Paul wrote to Timothy. Oh, that we had more older, established ministers giving out sincere instructions; encouraging, admonishing, and teaching our young ministers! Be encouraged, elder ministers, we need your experience, wisdom, and counsel. Thank God for you! We surely do need young ministers that are taught, established in the doctrines, and warned of the pitfalls our older ministers see, or have experienced, and by God's mercy "overcame by the blood of the Lamb".

Paul gave Timothy instructions about a minister's qualifications. Herein lies the ground-work that must be carefully laid before stepping out to fill a weighty and definite place in the Church of God. (Read Acts 20:28).

I Tim. 3:2, "A bishop must be blameless [without reproach], the husband of one wife [not divorced and remarried]; vigilant [temperate], sober [sober minded], of good behavior [orderly], given to hospitality [ready to share; not greedy or selfish], apt to teach, [instant in season]." Verse 3—"Not given to wine, [wine causes one to sleep; The preacher must be awake, alert]; No striker, not greedy of filthy lucre [not paid a salary], but patient [gentle, not easily offended, ready to listen, easy to be entreated], not a brawler, [contentious], not covetous [keep God first]." Verse 4—"One that ruleth well his own house [not domineering, harsh, critical; but the head of his household], having his children in subjection with all gravity [not a rod of iron, but firm discipline, respect for the doctrines, setting an example of neatness, cleanliness and modesty]." Verse 5—"For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?" We see by the way a man handles his business and domestic duties whether he can be trusted to rule in the Church of God. Let God be your helper. Search the scriptures, as it will take time to set your house in order.

One young man felt the call to the ministry. He told his saved companion of his burden. He realized unless he had her confidence and support, his ministry would be in vain. (Stand by your minister husbands, young wives, but keep in touch with God, so you can help them). In time, the young wife prayed through and gave her husband needed support. Still he waited on God, not moving forward to preach, but gave himself to diligent searching of the Word of God, looking to the Holy Spirit to rightly divide the Scriptures. Next, the Lord directed [against his personal feelings] this young man to an older minister who took the time to teach him and help the young brother get balanced and established in the doctrines of God's church. The young brother had been saved and spiritually growing perhaps two or three years, yet he waited three more before feeling qualified to preach the gospel with the Lord's approval. This brother has been severely tested, but due to the groundwork he laid, waiting on God to qualify him, he has stood true by the grace of God, when many others fell by the wayside. (Don't get ahead of God; feelings cannot be trusted).

Verse 6—"Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride [puffed up], he fall into the condemnation of the devil." A novice is described as a beginner, or one newly converted to the faith. It is impossible that one who has not been long and deeply experienced in the ways of God can guide others in the spiritual realms and way of life. Feelings and emotions run high and low, so they must be tempered by the engrafted Word of God, with a steady faith that rises above the storms. One must be firmly grounded on the Rock (Christ) with his "house in order", qualified, ready, and able to shoulder the burdens of the church, pushing his own feelings and desires into the background. He must be steadfast, able to be leaned on, abused, misrepresented, held up, held down, ever bearing his own burdens as well as those of the church, with the help of the Lord.

There was a man called John, whom the Lord prepared for 30 years to preach the gospel for six months. Thirty years sounds like a long training time, but it was necessary to prepare the way for the Saviour, laying a foundation for salvation to be brought to the world.

Jesus was careful to abide by his parents' wishes, as well as the laws of the land, while being prepared to preach the gospel only three years. (Seldom does the Lord work fast. He can, but He works so man can absorb and hold what He gives him.) The first victories Jesus gained before going out to preach the gospel were to endure and overcome strong temptations. (Our temptations come through our own weaknesses, but victory can be ours, thank the Lord!) Since Jesus was also human, He could not have withstood the severe temptations without earlier preparations. His ground work sustained Him to the end.

You, who have been taken unawares and overcome by temptations; be of good courage. We read in Jer. 18:4, "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hands of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it."

There was a young person who received talents from the Lord. He failed in one of the gifts and sought the Lord in repentance and tears. The Lord forgave, the saints forgave, but that special gift was never again entrusted to his care. The Lord made a new vessel.

I Tim. 3:10, "Let these also first be proved." I Tim. 4:14-16, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things: give thyself wholly to them that thy profiting may appear unto all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine: continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee".

May the prayers of the church follow you, young ministers. —A Burdened Saint

Our Choice

"Here today and gone tomorrow,"

So the poet the tale does tell.

We leave this earthly body here

To live on in heaven or in hell.

Heaven or hell, ours is the choosing,

Depending how we chart our course.

If we pursue worthless follies,

We'll spend eternity in remorse.

Oh, eternity! never ending,

Thought beyond our mortal quest.

Earthly life by time we measure,

But eternity is measureless.

Measureless, too, the love that's given

For the redemption of our soul.

Resign our life unto the Master,

Let His Spirit take control.

Yes, each may travel just one path.

Let your choice your soul to save—

Our souls will not return to ashes,

But will live on beyond the grave.

—Sandra Whitson